Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20

RSC-01 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 L-03

DODE-00 MC-02 COME-00 TRSE-00 (ISO)R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:PLINCOLN,JR/EB/ISM:WPOLIK APPROVED BY EB/ISM:MJDUX EA/PRCM:OVARMSTRONG EB/ICD-JJINGERSOLL (SUBS)

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O R 191905Z JAN 74 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, ETRD, CH

SUBJECT: US FERROUS SCRAP EXPORTS TO PRC

REF: PEKING 109.

- 1. IF "BUSINESS MATTER" CONCERNS US FERROUS SCRAP POLICY IN GENERAL OR CONTINGENCY RESERVE ALLOCATION, YOU SHOULD SIMPLY TAKE NOTE OF MINMETALS PRESENTATION AND INDICATE YOU WILL REPORT BACK TO WASHINGTON. IF APPROPRIATE, YOU COULD ASK FOR FIGURES ON LIKELY REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST QUARTER OF 74 AND REMAINDER OF YEAR, AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT WILL HELP CLARIFY THE SITUATION.
- 2. FYI FINAL DECISION ON CONTINGENCY RESERVE ALLOCATION HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE. DELAY IS PARTLY DUE TO DISCOVERY OF LARGE YEAREND CARRYOVER OF FERROUS SCRAP EXPORTS LICENSED IN 1973 BUT NOT SHIPPED. THIS APPLIES TO A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES INCLUDING PRC. BASED ON 1973 LICENSES ISSUED FOR PRC SHIPMENTS AND JULY-NOVEMBER 1973 MONTHLY EXPORTS (WHICH RANGED CONFIDENTIAL

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BETWEEN 63-67,000 TONS PER MONTH DURING JULY-SEPT; AND

BETWEEN 42-46,000 DURING OCT-NOV), WE CURRENTLY BELIEVE THAT PRC CARRYOVER (WHICH MAY BE ON AN ORDER OF 240,000 TONS) MAY WELL BE SUFFICIENT TO FILL PRC NEEDS FOR FIRST QUARTER, OR AT LEAST BE ALL THAT CONGESTED CHINESE PORTS CAN HANDLE. WE ARE CONSIDERING CALLING IN PRCLO OFFICER LATER THIS WEEK TO DISCUSS FERROUS SCRAP. PURPOSE WOULD BE TO (A) REVIEW US

SCRAP POLICY, RATIONALE, AND CONTROL REGULATIONS IN ORDER

TO MAKE SURE CHINESE HAVE ACCURATE UNDERSTANDING; (B) REVIEW FIGURES ON US-PRC SCRAP EXPORT RECORD AND OUTSTANDING CONTRACTS AND ASK WHETHER THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION; (C) INDICATE WE ARE AWARE OF THE PROBLEM OF NEW FOREIGN BUYERS (THE CONTINGENCY RESERVE ALLOCATION IS A SPECIFIC RECOGNITION OF THIS) AND, WITHOUT MAKING ANY COMMITMENTS, IMPLY THAT SOME RELIEF MAY BE POSSIBLE. END FYI

3. WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST USLO REPORT ON JAN 21 MEETING, TOGETHER WITH ANY VIEWS YOU MA* HAVE. RUSH

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